



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

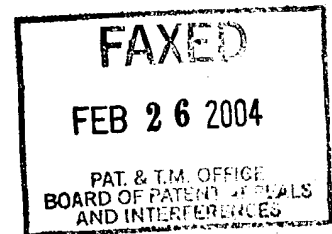
Board of Patent Appeals and Inferences

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Cover Sheet**

TO: Jacob Shuster, Esq.
Office of Counsel
Naval Surface Warfare Center

RE : Application 09/656,017 Appeal No. 2004-0769

FAX 301-227-1968



FROM: CRAIG R. FEINBERG, Program & Resource Administrator *CF*
BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS & INTERFERENCES
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NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING TRANSMITTAL SHEET): One (1)

REMARKS: In response to your Inquiry Letter sent by facsimile on February 20, 2004, styled "Docketing Notice Acknowledgement," please be aware that the Docketing Notice only lists whether a Reply Brief was filed and its date, and whether an Oral Hearing was requested and its date. Upon review of the application, you are correct that the Date of the Reply Brief should have been February 4, 2003. Accordingly, a new Docketing Notice will be sent out. Also, no Oral Hearing was requested.

Furthermore, with regard to the papers referred to in the Inquiry Letter, they do appear to be in the application and may be given whatever consideration deemed necessary by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

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